



State of Tennessee

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 274

By Representative Harrison

and

Senator Faulk

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Elesha G. Cornett, on her selection as Teacher of the Year at McPheeter's Bend Elementary School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Elesha G. Cornett is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Elesha Cornett has recently been selected Teacher of the Year for McPheeter's Bend Elementary School, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Elesha Cornett received her bachelor's degree in elementary education with a kindergarten endorsement from East Tennessee State University (ETSU), and she is currently seeking a master's degree in early childhood education from ETSU, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average throughout the program; and

WHEREAS, first employed by Hawkins County Schools in 1997, Elesha Cornett has served with acumen and alacrity as a kindergarten teacher for several exemplary years, having previously taught first grade; and

WHEREAS, Elesha Cornett is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure at McPheeter's Bend Elementary School, Elesha Cornett co-presented a workshop in January 2011 on Math and Literacy Stations for Kindergarten to a group of Hawkins County's kindergarten teachers, presented at The East Tennessee Early Childhood conference in July 2009, and set up a recycling center with two other presenters that integrated all subject areas for young children; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated professional in the field of education, Elesha Cornett is a member of the Tennessee Education Association and the National Education Association, and she has also served on a variety of committees during her teaching career, including the School Improvement Plan Committee, and providing invaluable assistance to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; and

WHEREAS, seeking ways to aid her students, Elesha Cornett worked with East Tennessee State University doctoral students during the summer of 2010 to redesign her kindergarten classroom at McPheeter's Bend Elementary School using the Reggio Emilia-inspired approach. The new design of her classroom will be recognized in a book currently being written by Dr. Pam Evanshen and Dr. Rebecca Isbell, who worked beside Elesha Cornett on the project for the entire summer; and

WHEREAS, Elesha Cornett conducted a Family Night at the ETSU Child Study Center in 2010 as part of her master's training, helping the Child Study Center teachers disseminate information about working with children from birth to age five; and

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WHEREAS, active in her community, Elesha Cornett has been a devoted member of Oak Grove Baptist Church since childhood, and she has faithfully taught Bible School and Sunday School for many years and participated in the Shoebox ministry; and

WHEREAS, Elesha Cornett truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Elesha Cornett truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Elesha G. Cornett on being chosen as Teacher of the Year at McPheeter's Bend Elementary School, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

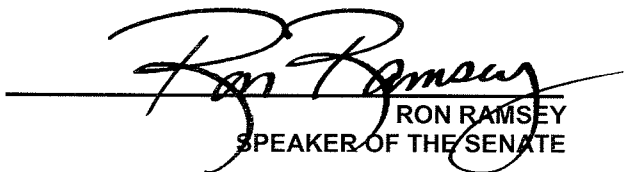
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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ADOPTED: APRIL 28, 2011



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 10th day of May 2011



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR